

**00919**

**1988/03/18**

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

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DATE: Tue Date 1/27/93

E0258

Friday, March 18, 1988

THE PRC AND THE MISSILE TECH REGIME

[Q. What is] the Missile Technology Control Regime?

[A. -- THE REGIME,] CREATED IN APRIL 1987, IS A SET OF IDENTICAL STATEMENTS OF POLICY BY THE U.S. AND OUR SIX ECONOMIC SUMMIT PARTNERS. IT IS NOT A TREATY, BUT THE ADHERING STATES HAVE MADE A POLICY COMMITMENT (OUTSIDE THEIR INTERNATIONAL TREATY OBLIGATIONS) NOT TO EXPORT BALLISTIC OR CRUISE MISSILE SYSTEMS CAPABLE OF DELIVERING MORE THAN A 500 KG PAYLOAD TO A RANGE OF MORE THAN 300 KM.

[C. Why did the Regime not prevent this transfer from China to Saudia Arabia?

A. -- CHINA IS NOT A SUBSCRIBER TO THE GUIDELINES OF THE MTCR, WHICH WOULD HAVE PROHIBITED THIS TRANSFER.]